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NEWS	4	JAN 28	USPATFULL, USPAT2, and USPATOLD enhanced with new custom IPC display formats
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NEWS	6	JAN 28	USGENE now provides USPTO sequence data within 3 days of publication
NEWS	7	JAN 28	TOXCENTER enhanced with reloaded MEDLINE segment
NEWS	8	JAN 28	MEDLINE and LMEDLINE reloaded with enhancements
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NEWS	14	MAR 31	IFICDB, IFIPAT, and IFIUDB enhanced with new custom IPC display formats
NEWS	15	MAR 31	CAS REGISTRY enhanced with additional experimental spectra
NEWS	16	MAR 31	CA/CAPLUS and CASREACT patent number format for U.S. applications updated
NEWS	17	MAR 31	LPCI now available as a replacement to LDPCI
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NEWS	20	APR 15	WPIDS, WPINDEX, and WPIX enhanced with new predefined hit display formats
NEWS	21	APR 28	EMBASE Controlled Term thesaurus enhanced
NEWS	22	APR 28	IMSRESEARCH reloaded with enhancements
NEWS	23	MAY 30	INPAFAMDB now available on STN for patent family searching
NEWS	24	MAY 30	DGENE, PCTGEN, and USGENE enhanced with new homology sequence search option
NEWS EXPRESS	FEBRUARY 08 CURRENT WINDOWS VERSION IS V8.3, AND CURRENT DISCOVER FILE IS DATED 20 FEBRUARY 2008		
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FILE 'HOME' ENTERED AT 14:26:05 ON 03 JUN 2008

=> set abbr on perm
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=> set plurals on perm
SET COMMAND COMPLETED

=> file uspatall caplus japio		
COST IN U.S. DOLLARS	SINCE FILE	TOTAL
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FULL ESTIMATED COST	0.21	0.21

FILE 'USPATFULL' ENTERED AT 14:26:38 ON 03 JUN 2008
CA INDEXING COPYRIGHT (C) 2008 AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY (ACS)

FILE 'USPATOLD' ENTERED AT 14:26:38 ON 03 JUN 2008
CA INDEXING COPYRIGHT (C) 2008 AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY (ACS)

FILE 'USPAT2' ENTERED AT 14:26:38 ON 03 JUN 2008
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FILE 'JAPIO' ENTERED AT 14:26:38 ON 03 JUN 2008
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=> s (kenaf or decan(1a)hemp or ambary)(s)(moisture(3a)(content or amount or level))
L1 55 (KENAF OR DECAN(1A) HEMP OR AMBARY) (S) (MOISTURE(3A) (CONTENT OR AMOUNT OR LEVEL))

=> s (kenaf or decan(1a)hemp or ambary) (12a) (moisture(3a) (content or amount or level))
L2 18 (KENAF OR DECAN(1A) HEMP OR AMBARY) (12A) (MOISTURE(3A) (CONTENT OR AMOUNT OR LEVEL))

=> d 12 1-18 ibib abs

L2 ANSWER 1 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN
ACCESSION NUMBER: 2006:1/4249 USPATFULL
TITLE: Kenaf-fiber-reinforced resin composition
INVENTOR(S): Serizawa, Shin, Tokyo, JAPAN
Inoue, Kazuhiko, Tokyo, JAPAN
Iji, Masatoshi, Tokyo, JAPAN
PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): NEC CORPORATION, Tokyo, JAPAN (non-U.S. corporation)

NUMBER	KIND	DATE
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PATENT INFORMATION: US 20060147695 A1 20060706
 APPLICATION INFO.: US 2004-541747 A1 20040109 (10)
 WO 2004-JP100 20040109
 20050708 PCT 371 date

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 2003-3856	20030110
	JP 2003-407799	20031205
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP, SUITE 500, 3000 K STREET NW, WASHINGTON, DC, 20007, US	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	18	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	3 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	952	
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.		

AB An object of the present invention is to provide a fiber-reinforced resin composition suitable for producing molded articles for products such as electrical and electronic equipment. The object has been achieved by a biodegradable resin composition containing a kenaf fiber, which contains a kenaf fiber in an amount of 10 to 50% by mass. In this case, the biodegradable resin is preferably a crystalline thermoplastic resin, particularly polylactic acid. The average fiber length (number average fiber length of the fibers excluding fragments) of the kenaf fiber is preferably 100 μ m to 20 mm, and the kenaf fiber preferably contains a kenaf fiber having a fiber length of 300 μ m to 20 mm. As the kenaf fiber, a fiber prepared from bast of kenaf is preferred.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 2 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 2006:6133 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Extrusion of synthetic wood material
 INVENTOR(S): Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, UNITED STATES
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company LLC, Columbus, OH, UNITED STATES
 (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 6984676	B1	20060110
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2002-247918		20020920 (10)
RELATED APPLN. INFO.:	Division of Ser. No. US 2000-659266, filed on 11 Sep 2000, ABANDONED Continuation of Ser. No. US 1996-735329, filed on 22 Oct 1996, Pat. No. US 6117924		
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	GRANTED		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Cain, Edward J.		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley Law Group LLP		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	14		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	2 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	364		
CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.			

AB An extrusion process is described for the extrusion of a synthetic wood material. The process includes a significantly higher compression ratio through which the extruded product must pass. The higher compression ratio results in significantly improved product qualities.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 3 OF 18 USPATFULL on \$TN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2004:243421 USPATFULL

TITLE: Method of producing a fiber board

INVENTOR(S): Okuzawa, Masayuki, Sanda-shi, JAPAN

Ohnishi, Kenji, Osaka-shi, JAPAN

Okudaira, Yuzo, Kazaki-gun, JAPAN

Ando, Hideyuki, Suita-shi, JAPAN

Umeoka, Kazunori, Ikoma-gun, JAPAN

Ryu, Bunkai, Kadoma-shi, JAPAN

Naito, Shigeki, Shijonawate-shi, JAPAN

Sugawara, Ryo, Nishinomiya-shi, JAPAN

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20040187998	A1	20040930
	US 7045027	B2	20060516
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2004-757532	A1	20040115 (10)

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 2003-96846	20030331
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH, PO BOX 747, FALLS CHURCH, VA, 22040-0747	

NUMBER OF CLAIMS: 11

EXEMPLARY CLAIM: 1

NUMBER OF DRAWINGS: 8 Drawing Page(s)

LINE COUNT: 1213

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB The present invention relates to a method of producing a fiber board characterized in that it comprises the following processes (a)-(f):

(a) a separating process of a bast portion,

(b) a fiberizing process by defibrating the bast portion of the kenaf,

(c) a preparing process of a mat comprising the kenaf fibers having an average length of 10-200 mm and an average diameter of 10-300 μ m,

(d) a supplying process of an adhesive agent into the fiber mat,

(e) a drying process of the adhesive agent, and

(f) a molding process by heating said fiber mat under pressure to form a fiber board having a density of 600-900 kg/m.sup.3.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 4 OF 18 USPATFULL on \$TN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2003:26210 USPATFULL

TITLE: Compression molding of synthetic wood material

INVENTOR(S): Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, United States

Zehner, Burch E., Gahanna, OH, United States

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company LLC, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

NUMBER	KIND	DATE
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 PATENT INFORMATION: US 6511757 B1 20030128
 APPLICATION INFO.: US 2000-712118 20001114 (9)
 RELATED APPLN. INFO.: Continuation of Ser. No. US 1996-739416, filed on 29
 Oct 1996, now patented, Pat. No. US 6180257

DOCUMENT TYPE: Utility
 FILE SEGMENT: GRANTED
 PRIMARY EXAMINER: Kiliman, Leszek
 LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE: Standley & Gilcrest LLP
 NUMBER OF CLAIMS: 21
 EXEMPLARY CLAIM: 1
 NUMBER OF DRAWINGS: 3 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)
 LINE COUNT: 296

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB A system of compression molding a synthetic wood formulation into a commercially useable synthetic wood component is described. Surprising results are achieved when the dry formulation is placed under heat and pressure. Many different components may be made using the present invention, such as by example, wood-like trim components for the housing construction industry.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 5 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2002:340353 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Extrusion of synthetic wood material using thermoplastic material in powder form
 INVENTOR(S): Zehner, Burch E., Gahanna, OH, United States
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 6498205	B1	20021224
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2001-36053		20011227 (10)
RELATED APPLN. INFO.:	Continuation of Ser. No. US 1996-741846, filed on 31 Oct 1996, now patented, Pat. No. US 6344504		
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	GRANTED		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Lipman, Bernard		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilcrest LLP		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	20		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	1 Drawing Figure(s); 1 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	327		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB An extrudable wood composite which includes cellulosic material and a powdered thermoplastic material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 6 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2002:34121 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Process for production of chemical pulp from herbaceous plants
 INVENTOR(S): Gallagher, Hugh P., Goshen, NY, United States
 Hill, Nelson F., Monroe, NY, United States
 Koster, Curtis P., Mahwah, NJ, United States
 Cassidy, Robert F., Warwick, NY, United States
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): International Paper Company, Purchase, NY, United

States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 6348127	B1	20020219
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1999-252499		19990218 (9)

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	US 1998-75238P	19980219 (60)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	GRANTED	
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Alvo, Steve	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Luedeka, Neely, & Graham, P.C.	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	33	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	5 Drawing Figure(s); 5 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	635	

AB A process for production of chemical fibrous pulp for making paper, paperboard and other fibrous products from herbaceous plants, such as kenaf. Pulp from the herbaceous plant is made by a process which involves densification of pieces of all or part of the plants; i.e., both the core and the stalk or just the core portion, into cubes or pellets having a density ranging from about 15 to about 70 lbs/ft.sup.3, preferably from about 25 to about 50 lbs/ft.sup.3, which are then chemically digested to produce a fibrous pulp. The densified cubes or pellets may be digested alone or together with conventional wood chips. A principal advantage of the invention is that the densified cubes or pellets exhibit significantly better yield and strength after treatment by conventional chemical pulping methods as compared with the undensified material, enabling more efficient and economical use of this material to supplement limited supplies of conventional hardwood and softwood pulp sources.

L2 ANSWER 7 OF 18 USPATFULL on SIN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 2002:24329 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Extrusion of synthetic wood material
 INVENTOR(S): Zehner, Burch E., Gahanna, OH, United States
 Laver, Terry C., Madison, WI, United States(4)
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 6344504	B1	20020205
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-741846		19961031 (8)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	GRANTED		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Lipman, Bernard		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilchrest LLP		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	9		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	1 Drawing Figure(s); 1 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	310		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB An extruded wood simulative material is described which includes a high degree of cellulosic material content and begins with powdered thermoplastic material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 8 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 2001:14115 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Compression molding of synthetic wood material
 INVENTOR(S): Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, United States
 Zehner, Burch E., Gahanna, OH, United States
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 6180257	B1	20010130
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-739416		19961029 (8)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Kiliman, Leszek		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilcrest LLP		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	13		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	3 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	285		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB A system of compression molding a synthetic wood formulation into a commercially useable synthetic wood component is described. Surprising results are achieved when the dry formulation is placed under heat and pressure. Many different components may be made using the present invention, such as by example, wood-like trim components for the housing construction industry.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 9 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 2000:121567 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Extrusion of synthetic wood material
 INVENTOR(S): Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, United States
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 6117924		20000912
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-735329		19961022 (8)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Michl, Paul R.		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilcrest LLP		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	2		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	2 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	283		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB An extrusion process is described for the extrusion of a synthetic wood material. The process includes a significantly higher compression ratio through which the extruded product must pass. The higher compression ratio results in significantly improved product qualities.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 10 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999:130480 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Method for separating kenaf into core and fiber
 INVENTOR(S): Stover, Jimmy R., 6610 Hunt, Corpus Christi, TX, United States 78413

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 5970582		19991026
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1999-281038		19990330 (9)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Neas, Michael A.		
ASSISTANT EXAMINER:	Welch, Gary L.		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Moller, G. Turner		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	12		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	10 Drawing Figure(s); 5 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	477		

AB A method and apparatus for separating kenaf into fiber and core uses a modified stick machine conventionally used in the cotton industry for removing trash from unginned cotton. Lengths of kenaf are delivered onto the periphery of a saw cylinder so the toothed wheels snag the fiber and draw the kenaf across a grate. Core is detached from the fiber, passes through the grate and is delivered to a core outlet. Fiber on the toothed wheels are removed by a doffing wheel and delivered to a fiber outlet. Multiple saw cylinder/doffing wheel assemblies are provided.

L2 ANSWER 11 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999:15622 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Renewable surface for extruded synthetic wood material
 INVENTOR(S): Zehner, Burch E., Gahanna, OH, United States
 Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, United States
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 5866264		19990202
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-735334		19961022 (8)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Cain, Edward J.		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilcrest		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	19		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	4 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	345		

AB A process is described in which an article of manufacture may be produced which includes a renewable surface on a synthetic wood composite substrate.

L2 ANSWER 12 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998:131342 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Balanced cooling of extruded synthetic wood material
 INVENTOR(S): Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, United States
 Taylor, William G., Columbus, OH, United States
 Miller, James M., Millersport, OH, United States
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus,

OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 5827462		19981027
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-735323		19961022 (8)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Bhat, Nina		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilcrest		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	9		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	4 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	297		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB An extrusion process is described in which a balanced cooling apparatus is incorporated. The cooling apparatus provides a coolant bath to an extruded component.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 13 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998:27654 USPATFULL

TITLE: Board produced from malvaceous bast plant and process for producing the same

INVENTOR(S): Kohnno, Tsuyoshi, c/o Kohnno Shinsozai Kaimatsus Co., Ltd., 333-189, Midoro-cho, Matsuyama Ehime, Japan 791-02

Yamaguchi, Hiroharu, Fuwa-gun, Japan

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Onishi, Atsushi, Tokyo, Japan (non-U.S. individual)

Kohnno, Tsuyoshi, Ehime, Japan (non-U.S. individual)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 5728269		19980317
	WO 9619328		19960627
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-696892		19961018 (8)
	WO 1995-JP2635		19951222
			19961018 PCT 371 date
			19961018 PCT 102(e) date

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 1994-336092	19941222
	JP 1995-90332	19950322
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted	
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Czaja, Donald E.	
ASSISTANT EXAMINER:	Leavitt, Steven B.	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Pearne, Gordon, McCoy & Granger LLP	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	16	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	1 Drawing Figure(s); 1 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	869	

AB A board composed of a lignocellulosic material and the modification thereof as the substantial components and having good mechanical strength, even when the board does not contain any components derived from an additive, by utilizing the autoadhesion of a specified lignocellulosic substance. This board is produced by molding under heat and pressure a lignocellulosic substance containing at least 30 weight %

of a malvaceae bast plant, being substantially free from any component derived from an adhesive, and has a strength value of more than 100 as defined by the following formula (I): $0.48+Y/X$, wherein Y is a bending strength (kgf/cm²) and X is a density (g/cm³). A particularly preferable example of the plant is the kenaf.

L2 ANSWER 14 OF 18 USPAT2 on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2004:243421 USPAT2

TITLE: Method of producing a fiber board

INVENTOR(S): Okuzawa, Masayuki, Sanda, JAPAN

Ohnishi, Kenji, Osaka, JAPAN

Okudaira, Yuzo, Hyogo, JAPAN

Ando, Hideyuki, Suita, JAPAN

Umeoka, Kazunori, Nara, JAPAN

Ryu, Bunkai, Kadoma, JAPAN

Naito, Shigeki, Shijonawate, JAPAN

Sugawara, Ryo, Nishinomiya, JAPAN

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd., Osaka, JAPAN (non-U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 7045027	B2	20060516
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2004-757532		20040115 (10)

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 2003-96846	20030331
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	GRANTED	
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Aftergut, Jeff H.	
ASSISTANT EXAMINER:	Schatz, Chris	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Birch Stewart Kolasch & Birch LLP	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	9	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	17 Drawing Figure(s); 8 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	1179	

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB The present invention relates to a method of producing a fiber board characterized in that it comprises the following processes (a)-(f):

- (a) a separating process of a bast portion,
- (b) a fiberizing process by defibrating the bast portion of the kenaf,
- (c) a preparing process of a mat comprising the kenaf fibers having an average length of 10-200 mm and an average diameter of 10-300 μ m,
- (d) a supplying process of an adhesive agent into the fiber mat,
- (e) a drying process of the adhesive agent, and
- (f) a molding process by heating said fiber mat under pressure to form a fiber board having a density of 600-900 kg/m³.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L2 ANSWER 15 OF 18 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2008 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2007:529524 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 146:482752

TITLE: Plant fiber compressed pellets, plant fiber-resin

composite compositions, and molded products thereof

INVENTOR(S): Sugawara, Akira; Saito, Eiichi; Yamaguchi, Hiroshi;

Ueno, Akira

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Matsushita Electric Works, Ltd., Japan

SOURCE: Jpn. Kokai Tokkyo Koho, 13pp.
 CODEN: JKXXAF
 DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent
 LANGUAGE: Japanese
 FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 1
 PATENT INFORMATION:

PATENT NO.	KIND	DATE	APPLICATION NO.	DATE
JP 2007/119559	A	20070517	JP 2005-311978	20051026
PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:			JP 2005-311978	20051026

AB Title pellets are prepared by compressing plant-derived lignocellulosic fibers with controlled moisture content of 10-30% and are mixed with resin pellets and kneaded to give the title compns. Thus, kenaf bast fiber bundles were cut, controlled of moisture content to 17%, and pelletized to give compressed pellets showing bulk d. 0.60 at moisture content 8% and good extrudability. Polyethylene (Novatec HJ 490) pellets were blended with 20% of the compressed pellets, kneaded, and pelletized to give a uniform composition

L2 ANSWER 16 OF 18 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2008 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999:264674 CAPLUS
 DOCUMENT NUMBER: 131:59896
 TITLE: Mercerization and dyeing of kenaf/cotton blend fabrics
 AUTHOR(S): Ramaswamy, Gita N.; Wang, Jinhua; Soeharto, Bambang
 CORPORATE SOURCE: Kansas State University, Manhattan, USA
 SOURCE: Textile Chemist and Colorist (1999), 31(3), 27-31
 CODEN: TCCOB6; ISSN: 0040-490X
 PUBLISHER: American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists
 DOCUMENT TYPE: Journal
 LANGUAGE: English

AB Kenaf is being considered an alternative agricultural crop in many states. Research has proven the feasibility of both woven and nonwoven textile products made from kenaf fiber blends. However, for kenaf to be used in apparel, its response to conventional finishing and dyeing processes must be evaluated. Therefore, the objectives of this study were to determine the effects of bleaching and slack and tension mercerizing on phys. properties, dye uptake, and colorfastness of kenaf/cotton fabrics. The slack- and tension-mercerized kenaf/cotton blend fabrics showed less shrinkage than the resp. controls. Barium activity number was not a good indicator of the level of mercerization of the kenaf/cotton blend fabric. The number obtained was less than 150, yet the fabric showed all effects of mercerization. Moisture content of the mercerized kenaf/cotton blend fabric (6.9%) was slightly less than that of the 100% mercerized cotton control fabric (8.1%). Mercerization increased the dye uptake for the kenaf/cotton fabric.

REFERENCE COUNT: 21 THERE ARE 21 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD. ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT

L2 ANSWER 17 OF 18 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2008 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1979:105925 CAPLUS
 DOCUMENT NUMBER: 90:105925
 ORIGINAL REFERENCE NO.: 90:16739a,16742a
 TITLE: Bale storage of kenaf for pulp
 AUTHOR(S): Bagby, M. O.; Clark, T. F.; Adamson, W. C.; White, G. A.; Cunningham, R. L.
 CORPORATE SOURCE: NRRC, USDA, Peoria, IL, USA
 SOURCE: Nonwood Plant Fiber Pulping (1978), 9, 33-9
 CODEN: NPFRDN; ISSN: 0197-4513
 DOCUMENT TYPE: Journal

LANGUAGE: English

AB Frost-killed, field-dried kenaf bales having initial moisture content 12% and 31% were stored for 1.5 yr under the covering of black polypropylene (I) [9003-07-0], tarpaulin, and kenaf. The initial moisture content had little or no effect on yields and properties of pulp prepared from the covered kenaf. Kenaf solids were best preserved by the tarpaulin covering and were equal to kenaf stored in an unheated barn; covering with I and kenaf resulted in .apprx.10% and .apprx.50% less solids recovery, resp., than the tarpaulin covers.

L2 ANSWER 18 OF 18 JAPIO (C) 2008 JPO on STN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 2002-300851 JAPIO
 TITLE: METHOD FOR PRODUCING KENAF CUBE
 INVENTOR: ROBERT E BLEDSOE
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): WORLD KENAF PRODUCT:KK
 PATENT INFORMATION:

PATENT NO	KIND	DATE	ERA	MAIN IPC
JP 2002300851	A	20021015	Heisei	A23K001-14

APPLICATION INFORMATION

STN FORMAT: JP 2001-105829 20010404
 ORIGINAL: JP2001105829 Heisei
 PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.: JP 2001-105829 20010404
 SOURCE: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN (CD-ROM), Unexamined Applications, Vol. 2002

AN 2002-300851 JAPIO

AB PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a kenaf cube comprising kenaf only without using any additive to improve storage efficiency and transportation efficiency and maintaining dryness of the kenaf cube.
 SOLUTION: This method producing kenaf cube comprises a first drying process S1, a cutting process S2, a storing process S3, a humidifying process S4, a compressing process S5 and a second drying process S6. The first process S1 dries the reaped kenaf to 10-12 weight% of a moisture content. The cutting process S2 cuts the kenaf into a predetermined length. The storing process S3 stores the cut kenaf by spouting them into a pasture wagon. The humidifying process S4 humidifies kenaf stored in the pasture wagon to 15 weight% of the moisture content. The compressing process S5 compresses the kenaf into a cubic shape and the kenaf cube obtained in the compressing process is dried in the second drying process S6.
 COPYRIGHT: (C)2002,JPO

=> d 12 13 ibib hit

L2 ANSWER 13 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998:27654 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Board produced from malvaceous bast plant and process for producing the same
 INVENTOR(S): Kohno, Tsuyoshi, c/o Kohno Shinsozai Kaimatsus Co., Ltd., 333-189, Midoro-cho, Matsuyama Ehime, Japan 791-02 Yamaguchi, Hiroharu, Fuwa-gun, Japan
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Onishi, Atsushi, Tokyo, Japan (non-U.S. individual) Kohno, Tsuyoshi, Ehime, Japan (non-U.S. individual)

NUMBER	KIND	DATE
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PATENT INFORMATION:	US 5728269	19980317
	WO 9619328	19960627
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-696892	19961018 (8)
	WO 1995-JP2635	19951222
		19961018 PCT 371 date
		19961018 PCT 102(e) date

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 1994-336092	19941222
	JP 1995-90332	19950322
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted	
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Czaja, Donald E.	
ASSISTANT EXAMINER:	Leavitt, Steven B.	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Pearne, Gordon, McCoy & Granger LLP	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	16	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	1 Drawing Figure(s); 1 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	869	

DETD The moisture content of the kenaf and other lignocellulosic material in the embodiments and the comparative examples are adjusted within the range of 5 to 10%. The moisture adjustment is conducted by heating these material at 105° C. when the adhesive is not used, and by heating at 80° C. and by keeping for 72 hours in the atmosphere at 20° C. and 65% RH.

CLM What is claimed is:

16. A method for preparing a board having a value according to Equation I greater than 100: $\text{value} = 0.48 + Y/X \cdot \text{sup.2}$, (Equation I), wherein Y is bending strength (kgf/cm.sup.2) and X is density (g/cm.sup.3), said method comprising: providing an effective amount of a kenaf plant; removing a bast portion from said kenaf plant; flaking a woody portion of said kenaf plant after removal of said bast portion, thereby producing kenaf flakes; treating said kenaf flakes by exposure to steam for a time period of from about 3 minutes to about 40 minutes, said steam having a temperature of from about 120° C. to about 180° C. and having a pressure generally corresponding to the saturated vapor pressure of said steam at said temperature; ensuring that the moisture content of said kenaf flakes is from about 5% to about 15%; providing a form adapted for pressing said kenaf flakes; depositing said kenaf flakes in said form; and hot pressing said kenaf flakes in said form at a temperature of from about 210° C. to about 230° C. and a pressure of at least about 5 kg/cm.sup.2.

=> d 12 12 ibib hit

L2 ANSWER 12 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998:131342 USPATFULL

TITLE: Balanced cooling of extruded synthetic wood material

INVENTOR(S): Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, United States
Taylor, William G., Columbus, OH, United States
Miller, James M., Millersport, OH, United States

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

NUMBER	KIND	DATE
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PATENT INFORMATION:	US 5827462	19981027
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-735323	19961022 (8)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted	
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Bhat, Nina	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilcrest	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	9	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	4 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	297	

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

DETD The cellulosic fibrous-polymer composite material used in the present invention may have a higher cellulosic fiber content than normally recognized. The overall process may include the mixing of raw materials including cellulosic fibers, thermoplastic materials, cross-linking agents and process lubricants. The cellulosic material may be any one or more cellulosic materials such as sawdust, newspapers, alfalfa, wheat pulp, wood chips, wood fibers, wood particles, ground wood, wood flour, wood flakes, wood veneers, wood laminates, paper, cardboard, straw, cotton, rice hulls, coconut shells, peanut shells, bagass, plant fibers, bamboo or palm fiber, and kenaf. Cellulosic material is first dried to a low moisture content. Although apparently not critical a preferred moisture content is about 1%-10%.

=> d 12 11 ibib hit

L2 ANSWER 11 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN
 ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999:15622 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Renewable surface for extruded synthetic wood material
 INVENTOR(S): Zehner, Burch E., Gahanna, OH, United States
 Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, United States
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 5866264		19990202
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-735334		19961022 (8)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Cain, Edward J.		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilcrest		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	19		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	4 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	345		

DETD The cellulosic fibrous-polymer composite material used in the present invention may have a higher cellulosic fiber content than normally recognized. The overall process may include the mixing of raw materials including cellulosic fibers, thermoplastic materials, cross-linking agents and process lubricants. The cellulosic material may be any one or more cellulosic materials such as sawdust, newspapers, alfalfa, wheat pulp, wood chips, wood fibers, wood particles, ground wood, wood flour, wood flakes, wood veneers, wood laminates, paper, cardboard, straw, cotton, rice hulls, coconut shells, peanut shells, bagass, plant fibers, bamboo or palm fiber, and kenaf. Cellulosic material is first dried to a low moisture content. A preferred moisture content is about 1%-10%.

=> d 12 9 ibib hit

L2 ANSWER 9 OF 18 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2000:121567 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Extrusion of synthetic wood material
 INVENTOR(S): Brandt, Jeffrey R., Blacklick, OH, United States
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Crane Plastics Company Limited Partnership, Columbus, OH, United States (U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 6117924		20000912
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 1996-735329		19961022 (8)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	Granted		
PRIMARY EXAMINER:	Michl, Paul R.		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Standley & Gilcrest LLP		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	2		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	2 Drawing Figure(s); 2 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	283		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

DETD The cellulosic fibrous-polymer composite material used in the present invention may have a higher cellulosic fiber content than normally recognized. The overall process may include the mixing of raw materials including cellulosic fibers, thermoplastic materials, cross-linking agents and process lubricants. The cellulosic material may be any one or more cellulosic materials such as sawdust, newspapers, alfalfa, wheat pulp, wood chips, wood fibers, wood particles, ground wood, wood flour, wood flakes, wood veneers, wood laminates, paper, cardboard, straw, cotton, rice hulls, coconut shells, peanut shells, bagass, plant fibers, bamboo or palm fiber, and kenaf. Cellulosic material is first dried to a low moisture content. Although apparently not critical a preferred moisture content is about 1% to 10%.

=> d his

(FILE 'HOME' ENTERED AT 14:26:05 ON 03 JUN 2008)
 SET ABBR ON PERM
 SET PLURALS ON PERM

FILE 'USPATFULL, USPATOLD, USPAT2, CAPLUS, JAPIO' ENTERED AT 14:26:38 ON
 03 JUN 2008

L1 55 S (KENAF OR DECAN(1A)HEMP OR AMBARY) (S) (MOISTURE(3A) (CONTENT OR
 L2 18 S (KENAF OR DECAN(1A)HEMP OR AMBARY) (12A) (MOISTURE(3A) (CONTENT

=> s l1 and biodegrad?(5a) (polymer# or resin#) or polylactic acid or
 poly?(1a) (lactic acid)

L3 47870 L1 AND BIODEGRAD?(5A) (POLYMER# OR RESIN#) OR POLYLACTIC ACID OR
 POLY?(1A) (LACTIC ACID)

=> s l1 and (kenaf or decan(1a)hemp or ambary) (s) (biodegrad?(5a) (polymer# or
 resin#) or polylactic acid or poly?(1a) (lactic acid))

L4 5 L1 AND (KENAF OR DECAN(1A) HEMP OR AMBARY) (S) (BIODEGRAD?(5A) (POL
 YMER# OR RESIN#) OR POLYLACTIC ACID OR POLY?(1A) (LACTIC ACID))

=> d 14 1-5 ibib abs

L4 ANSWER 1 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2006:174249 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Kenaf-fiber-reinforced resin composition
 INVENTOR(S): Serizawa, Shin, Tokyo, JAPAN
 Inoue, Kazuhiko, Tokyo, JAPAN
 Iji, Masatoshi, Tokyo, JAPAN
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): NEC CORPORATION, Tokyo, JAPAN (non-U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20060147695	A1	20060706
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2004-541747	A1	20040109 (10)
	WO 2004-JP100		20040109
			20050708 PCT 371 date

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 2003-3856	20030110
	JP 2003-407799	20031205
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP, SUITE 500, 3000 K STREET NW, WASHINGTON, DC, 20007, US	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	18	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	3 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	952	

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB An object of the present invention is to provide a fiber-reinforced resin composition suitable for producing molded articles for products such as electrical and electronic equipment. The object has been achieved by a biodegradable resin composition containing a kenaf fiber, which contains a kenaf fiber in an amount of 10 to 50% by mass. In this case, the biodegradable resin is preferably a crystalline thermoplastic resin, particularly polylactic acid. The average fiber length (number average fiber length of the fibers excluding fragments) of the kenaf fiber is preferably 100 μ m to 20 mm, and the kenaf fiber preferably contains a kenaf fiber having a fiber length of 300 μ m to 20 mm. As the kenaf fiber, a fiber prepared from bast of kenaf is preferred.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L4 ANSWER 2 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2006:96866 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Methods for manufacturing fiber molded articles
 INVENTOR(S): Hashiba, Masanori, Kariya-shi, JAPAN
 Kawajiri, Hideki, Kariya-shi, JAPAN

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20060082025	A1	20060420
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2005-243475	A1	20051004 (11)

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 2004-297649	20041012

DOCUMENT TYPE: JP 2005-75259 20050316
 FILE SEGMENT: UTILITY
 APPLICATION
 LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE: PATTERSON, THUENTE, SKAAR & CHRISTENSEN, P.A., 4800 IDS
 CENTER, 80 SOUTH 8TH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS, MN,
 55402-2100, US
 NUMBER OF CLAIMS: 14
 EXEMPLARY CLAIM: 1
 LINE COUNT: 851

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB A method is taught for manufacturing a fiber molded article that comprises a fibrous material and a binder material. The method includes the steps of molding a base product under heat and pressure, the base product including the fibrous material and a binder material liquid that comprises the binder material fluidized by a fluidizer, and drying the base product under heat and pressure in order to evaporate the fluidizer contained in the base product before the base product is molded. The drying step is performed at a temperature between the boiling point of the fluidizer minus 20° C. and the boiling point of the fluidizer plus 20° C. and below the melting point of the binder material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L4 ANSWER 3 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005:158051 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Environmentally friendly polylactide-based composite formulations

INVENTOR(S): Mohanty, Amar K., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Drzal, Lawrence T., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Rook, Brian P., Holt, MI, UNITED STATES
 Misra, Manjusri, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20050136259	A1	20050623
	US 7354656	B2	20080408
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2005-32609	A1	20050110 (11)
RELATED APPLN. INFO.:	Continuation of Ser. No. US 2002-304816, filed on 26 Nov 2002, GRANTED, Pat. No. US 6869985		

DOCUMENT TYPE: UTILITY
 FILE SEGMENT: APPLICATION
 LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE: ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES, INC., 2500 COLUMBIA AVENUE,
 P.O. BOX 3001, LANCASTER, PA, 17604-3001, US
 NUMBER OF CLAIMS: 23
 EXEMPLARY CLAIM: 1-51
 NUMBER OF DRAWINGS: 5 Drawing Page(s)
 LINE COUNT: 1759

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB Polymeric materials and products, including sheet flooring materials prepared from the polymeric materials, and processes for preparing the polymeric materials, are disclosed. The polymeric materials include a polylactic acid-based polymer in combination with plasticizer and a compatibilizer, and optionally include a filler. The polymeric material can include between about 30 to about 50 percent by weight polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene glycol, polyglycolide, ethylene vinyl acetate, polycarbonate, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxyalkanoates, or polyolefins modified with polar groups, for example, ionomers. The plasticizer is typically an epoxidized vegetable oil or esterified and epoxidized vegetable oil and is typically present in an amount of between about 10 and about 50% by weight. In some embodiments, the compatibilizer is a

polyolefin modified with one or more polar functional groups, and is typically present in an amount of between about 5 and about 10% by weight. The material can be used in decorative surface coverings, such as a floor coverings, particularly when it is in the form of a polymeric sheet. The polymeric material can be present in at least one layer of a floor covering, which floor covering can also include one or more additional layers such as wear layers, foamed or foamable layers, top coat layers and design layers. The additional layers can also include the polymeric material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L4 ANSWER 4 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005:144009 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Environmentally friendly polylactide-based composite formulations
 INVENTOR(S): Mohanty, Amar K., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Drzal, Lawrence T., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Rook, Brian P., Holt, MI, UNITED STATES
 Misra, Manjusri, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20050123744	A1	20050609
	US 7256223	B2	20070814
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2005-32608	A1	20050110 (11)
RELATED APPLN. INFO.:	Continuation of Ser. No. US 2002-304816, filed on 26 Nov 2002, GRANTED, Pat. No. US 6869985		
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES, INC., 2500 COLUMBIA AVENUE, P.O. BOX 3001, LANCASTER, PA, 17604-3001, US		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	48		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	5 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	1909		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB Polymeric materials and products, including sheet flooring materials prepared from the polymeric materials, and processes for preparing the polymeric materials, are disclosed. The polymeric materials include a polylactic acid-based polymer in combination with plasticizer and a compatibilizer, and optionally include a filler. The polymeric material can include between about 30 to about 50 percent by weight polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene glycol, polyglycolide, ethylene vinyl acetate, polycarbonate, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxyalkanoates, or polyolefins modified with polar groups, for example, ionomers. The plasticizer is typically an epoxidized vegetable oil or esterified and epoxidized vegetable oil and is typically present in an amount of between about 10 and about 50% by weight. In some embodiments, the compatibilizer is a polyolefin modified with one or more polar functional groups, and is typically present in an amount of between about 5 and about 10% by weight. The material can be used in decorative surface coverings, such as a floor coverings, particularly when it is in the form of a polymeric sheet. The polymeric material can be present in at least one layer of a floor covering, which floor covering can also include one or more additional layers such as wear layers, foamed or foamable layers, top coat layers and design layers. The additional layers can also include the polymeric material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L4 ANSWER 5 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2003:307060 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Environmentally friendly polylactide-based composite formulations
 INVENTOR(S): Mohanty, Amar Kumar, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Drzal, Lawrence T., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Rook, Brian P., Holt, MI, UNITED STATES
 Misra, Manjusri, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20030216496	A1	20031120
	US 6869985	B2	20050322
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2002-304816	A1	20021126 (10)

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	US 2002-379440P	20020510 (60)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC, P.O. Box 7037, Atlanta, GA, 30357-0037	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	69	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	5 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	1938	

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB Polymeric materials and products, including sheet flooring materials prepared from the polymeric materials, and processes for preparing the polymeric materials, are disclosed. The polymeric materials include a polylactic acid-based polymer in combination with plasticizer and a compatibilizer, and optionally include a filler. The polymeric material can include between about 30 to about 50 percent by weight polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene glycol, polyglycolide, ethylene vinyl acetate, polycarbonate, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxyalkanoates, or polyolefins modified with polar groups, for example, ionomers. The plasticizer is typically an epoxidized vegetable oil or esterified and epoxidized vegetable oil and is typically present in an amount of between about 10 and about 50% by weight. In some embodiments, the compatibilizer is a polyolefin modified with one or more polar functional groups, and is typically present in an amount of between about 5 and about 10% by weight. The material can be used in decorative surface coverings, such as a floor coverings, particularly when it is in the form of a polymeric sheet. The polymeric material can be present in at least one layer of a floor covering, which floor covering can also include one or more additional layers such as wear layers, foamed or foamable layers, top coat layers and design layers. The additional layers can also include the polymeric material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

=> d 14 5 ibib hit

L4 ANSWER 5 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2003:307060 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Environmentally friendly polylactide-based composite formulations
 INVENTOR(S): Mohanty, Amar Kumar, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

Drzal, Lawrence T., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Rook, Brian P., Holt, MI, UNITED STATES
 Misra, Manjusri, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20030216496	A1	20031120
	US 6869985	B2	20050322
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2002-304816	A1	20021126 (10)

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	US 2002-379440P	20020510 (60)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC, P.O. Box 7037, Atlanta, GA, 30357-0037	

NUMBER OF CLAIMS: 69
 EXEMPLARY CLAIM: 1
 NUMBER OF DRAWINGS: 5 Drawing Page(s)
 LINE COUNT: 1938
 CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

DETD [0041] Inorganic fillers and reinforcements can enhance the various polylactic acid-based layer(s) in floor covering materials including the polymeric material described herein. This enhancement can be through improvements in appearance, physical properties, or chemical characteristics. The particular inorganic filler/reinforcement attributes that are important are the nature of the inorganic material, the shape of the material, and any surface treatment or coating. There are many important aspects of the inorganic material. Density is important in the application and long term utility of a floor covering. Highly filled back coat layers (e.g. up to 85% by weight of filler) can be very useful in this regard. Another basic material attribute is hardness. Increased hardness is desirable in the final product, but too hard a filler (such as silica) can have negative effects on the wear of processing equipment, such as melt mixers and extruders. Table 1 lists some common inorganic fillers/reinforcements.

TABLE 1

Inorganic/organic Material	Density g/cc
Calcium Carbonate	2.7
Talc	2.9
Mica	2.6
Glass Fibres	2.6
Silica	2.5
Wollastonite	2.9
Aluminium Trihydrate	2.4
Magnesium Hydroxide	2.3
Titanium Dioxide	4.2
Exfoliated Nano-Clay	2.6
Bio/natural fibers including, but not limited to:	1.1-1.4
Kenaf, Jute, Hemp, Sisal, Corn Stalk, Grass fibers, Wood	

fiber

DETD [0062] Natural/bio fibers: Natural fibers, alone or in combination with synthetic fibers, can be used to reinforce the plastic material described herein. The natural fibers can serve as reinforcement by enhancing the strength and stiffness and reducing the weight of the resulting composite structures. The properties of natural fibers vary with their source and treatment. The mechanical properties depend on whether the fibers are taken from plant stem or leaf, the quality of the plant locations, the age of the plant and the extraction process (retting) adopted to collect the fiber from the plants. Depending on their origin, the natural fibers may be grouped into: bast (stem), leaf and seed types. Examples include: (i) Bast: Jute, Flax, Kenaf, Hemp and Ramie; (ii) Leaf Sisal, henequen and pineapple leaf fiber (PALF); (iii) Seed/fruit: Cotton, coir and kapok. The natural fibers are lignocellulosic in nature and are primarily include cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin. The various chemical constituents of a specific natural fiber can also vary considerably. Such variation may be due to the origin, age, retting (mode of extraction of fiber from the source) process adopted, etc. Among all the natural fibers listed, coir is observed to contain least amount of cellulose but the highest percent of lignin. The amount of cellulose, in lignocellulosic systems, can vary depending on the species and age of the plant/species. The lignin, being polyfunctional, exists in combination with more than one neighboring chain molecules of cellulose and/or hemicellulose, making a crosslinked structure. The natural fibers are hydrophilic in nature, with moisture contents typically ranging between 8 and 13% by weight.

=> FIL STNGUIDE

COST IN U.S. DOLLARS

SINCE FILE

TOTAL

ENTRY

SESSION

FULL ESTIMATED COST

164.12

164.33

DISCOUNT AMOUNTS (FOR QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS)

SINCE FILE

TOTAL

ENTRY

SESSION

CA SUBSCRIBER PRICE

-2.40

-2.40

FILE 'STNGUIDE' ENTERED AT 14:38:39 ON 03 JUN 2008
 USE IS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF YOUR CUSTOMER AGREEMENT
 COPYRIGHT (C) 2008 AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY (ACS)

FILE CONTAINS CURRENT INFORMATION.

LAST RELOADED: May 30, 2008 (20080530/UP).

=> d his full

(FILE 'HOME' ENTERED AT 14:26:05 ON 03 JUN 2008)

SET ABBR ON PERM

SET PLURALS ON PERM

FILE 'USPATFULL, USPATOLD, USPAT2, CAPLUS, JAPIO' ENTERED AT 14:26:38 ON
 03 JUN 2008

L1 55 SEA ABB=ON PLU=ON (KENAF OR DECAN(1A) HEMP OR AMBARY) (S) (MOIS
 TURE(3A) (CONTENT OR AMOUNT OR LEVEL))
 L2 18 SEA ABB=ON PLU=ON (KENAF OR DECAN(1A) HEMP OR AMBARY) (12A) (MO
 ISTURE(3A) (CONTENT OR AMOUNT OR LEVEL))
 D L2 1-18 IBIB ABS
 D L2 13 IBIB HIT
 D L2 12 IBIB HIT

D L2 11 IBIB HIT
D L2 9 IBIB HIT
L3 47870 SEA ABB=ON PLU=ON L1 AND BIODEGRAD?(5A) (POLYMER# OR RESIN#)
OR POLYLACTIC ACID OR POLY?(1A) (LACTIC ACID)
L4 5 SEA ABB=ON PLU=ON L1 AND KENAF OR DECAN(1A) HEMP OR
AMBARY) (S) (BIODEGRAD?(5A) (POLYMER# OR RESIN#) OR POLYLACTIC
ACID OR POLY?(1A) (LACTIC ACID))
D L4 1-5 IBIB ABS
D L4 5 IBIB HIT

FILE 'STINGUIDE' ENTERED AT 14:38:39 ON 03 JUN 2008

FILE HOME

FILE USPATFULL

FILE COVERS 1971 TO PATENT PUBLICATION DATE: 3 Jun 2008 (20080603/PD)
FILE LAST UPDATED: 3 Jun 2008 (20080603/ED)
HIGHEST GRANTED PATENT NUMBER: US7383587
HIGHEST APPLICATION PUBLICATION NUMBER: US2008127393
CA INDEXING IS CURRENT THROUGH 3 Jun 2008 (20080603/UPCA)
ISSUE CLASS FIELDS (/INCL) CURRENT THROUGH: 3 Jun 2008 (20080603/PD)
REVISED CLASS FIELDS (/NCL) LAST RELOADED: Apr 2008
USPTO MANUAL OF CLASSIFICATIONS THESAURUS ISSUE DATE: Apr 2008

FILE USPATOLD

FILE COVERS U.S. PATENTS 1790-1975
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FILE USPAT2

FILE COVERS 2001 TO PUBLICATION DATE: 3 Jun 2008 (20080603/PD)
FILE LAST UPDATED: 3 Jun 2008 (20080603/ED)
HIGHEST GRANTED PATENT NUMBER: US20080061113
HIGHEST APPLICATION PUBLICATION NUMBER: US2008126760
CA INDEXING IS CURRENT THROUGH 3 Jun 2008 (20080603/UPCA)
ISSUE CLASS FIELDS (/INCL) CURRENT THROUGH: 3 Jun 2008 (20080603/PD)
REVISED CLASS FIELDS (/NCL) LAST RELOADED: Apr 2008
USPTO MANUAL OF CLASSIFICATIONS THESAURUS ISSUE DATE: Apr 2008

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FILE LAST UPDATED: 2 Jun 2008 (20080602/ED)

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FILE JAPIO
FILE LAST UPDATED: 07 MAY 2008 <20080507/UP>
MOST RECENT PUBLICATION DATE: 31 JAN 2008 <20080131/PD>

>>> GRAPHIC IMAGES AVAILABLE <<<

FILE STNGUIDE
FILE CONTAINS CURRENT INFORMATION.
LAST RELOADED: May 30, 2008 (20080530/UP).

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=> s kenaf(s)(biodegrad?(5a)(polymer# or resin#) or polylactic acid or
poly?(1a)(lactic acid))
L5 144 KENAF(S)(BIOGRAD?(5A)(POLYMER# OR RESIN#) OR POLYLACTIC ACID
OR POLY?(1A)(LACTIC ACID))

=> s kenaf(15a)(fiber#)
L6 2423 KENAF(15A)(FIBER#)

=> s l5 and l6
L7 123 L5 AND L6

=> s kenaf(s)(moisture(4a)(content or amount or level)
UNMATCHED LEFT PARENTHESIS 'S'(MOISTURE'
The number of right parentheses in a query must be equal to the

number of left parentheses.

=> s kenaf(s)(moisture(4a)(content or amount or level))
 L8 55 KENAF(S)(MOISTURE(4A)(CONTENT OR AMOUNT OR LEVEL))

=> s 17 and 18
 L9 5 L7 AND L8

=> d 19 1-5 ibib abs

L9 ANSWER 1 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2006:174249 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Kenaf-fiber-reinforced resin
 composition
 INVENTOR(S): Serizawa, Shin, Tokyo, JAPAN
 Inoue, Kazuhiko, Tokyo, JAPAN
 Iji, Masatoshi, Tokyo, JAPAN
 PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): NEC CORPORATION, Tokyo, JAPAN (non-U.S. corporation)

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20060147695	A1	20060706
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2004-541747	A1	20040109 (10)
	WO 2004-JP100		20040109
			20050708 PCT 371 date

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 2003-3856	20030110
	JP 2003-407799	20031205
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP, SUITE 500, 3000 K STREET NW, WASHINGTON, DC, 20007, US	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	18	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	3 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	952	

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB An object of the present invention is to provide a fiber-reinforced resin composition suitable for producing molded articles for products such as electrical and electronic equipment. The object has been achieved by a biodegradable resin composition containing a kenaf fiber, which contains a kenaf fiber in an amount of 10 to 50% by mass. In this case, the biodegradable resin is preferably a crystalline thermoplastic resin, particularly polylactic acid. The average fiber length (number average fiber length of the fibers excluding fragments) of the kenaf fiber is preferably 100 μ m to 20 mm, and the kenaf fiber preferably contains a kenaf fiber having a fiber length of 300 μ m to 20 mm. As the kenaf fiber, a fiber prepared from bast of kenaf is preferred.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L9 ANSWER 2 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2006:96866 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Methods for manufacturing fiber molded articles

INVENTOR(S): Hashiba, Masanori, Kariya-shi, JAPAN
Kawajiri, Hideki, Kariya-shi, JAPAN

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20060082025	A1	20060420
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2005-243475	A1	20051004 (11)

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	JP 2004-297649	20041012
	JP 2005-75259	20050316
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	PATTERSON, THUENTE, SKAAR & CHRISTENSEN, P.A., 4800 IDS CENTER, 80 SOUTH 8TH STREET, MINNEAPOLIS, MN, 55402-2100, US	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	14	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
LINE COUNT:	851	

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB A method is taught for manufacturing a fiber molded article that comprises a fibrous material and a binder material. The method includes the steps of molding a base product under heat and pressure, the base product including the fibrous material and a binder material liquid that comprises the binder material fluidized by a fluidizer, and drying the base product under heat and pressure in order to evaporate the fluidizer contained in the base product before the base product is molded. The drying step is performed at a temperature between the boiling point of the fluidizer minus 20° C. and the boiling point of the fluidizer plus 20° C. and below the melting point of the binder material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L9 ANSWER 3 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005:158051 USPATFULL
TITLE: Environmentally friendly polylactide-based composite formulations
INVENTOR(S): Mohanty, Amar K., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
Drzal, Lawrence T., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
Rook, Brian P., Holt, MI, UNITED STATES
Misra, Manjusri, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20050136259	A1	20050623
	US 7354656	B2	20080408
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2005-32609	A1	20050110 (11)
RELATED APPLN. INFO.:	Continuation of Ser. No. US 2002-304816, filed on 26 Nov 2002, GRANTED, Pat. No. US 6869985		
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES, INC., 2500 COLUMBIA AVENUE, P.O. BOX 3001, LANCASTER, PA, 17604-3001, US		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	23		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1-51		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	5 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	1759		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB Polymeric materials and products, including sheet flooring materials

prepared from the polymeric materials, and processes for preparing the polymeric materials, are disclosed. The polymeric materials include a polylactic acid-based polymer in combination with plasticizer and a compatibilizer, and optionally include a filler. The polymeric material can include between about 30 to about 50 percent by weight polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene glycol, polyglycolide, ethylene vinyl acetate, polycarbonate, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxyalkanoates, or polyolefins modified with polar groups, for example, ionomers. The plasticizer is typically an epoxidized vegetable oil or esterified and epoxidized vegetable oil and is typically present in an amount of between about 10 and about 50% by weight. In some embodiments, the compatibilizer is a polyolefin modified with one or more polar functional groups, and is typically present in an amount of between about 5 and about 10% by weight. The material can be used in decorative surface coverings, such as a floor coverings, particularly when it is in the form of a polymeric sheet. The polymeric material can be present in at least one layer of a floor covering, which floor covering can also include one or more additional layers such as wear layers, foamed or foamable layers, top coat layers and design layers. The additional layers can also include the polymeric material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L9 ANSWER 4 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005:144009 USPATFULL
TITLE: Environmentally friendly polylactide-based composite formulations

INVENTOR(S): Mohanty, Amar K., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
Drzal, Lawrence T., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
Rook, Brian P., Holt, MI, UNITED STATES
Misra, Manjusri, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20050123744	A1	20050609
	US 7256223	B2	20070814
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2005-32608	A1	20050110 (11)
RELATED APPLN. INFO.:	Continuation of Ser. No. US 2002-304816, filed on 26 Nov 2002, GRANTED, Pat. No. US 6869985		
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES, INC., 2500 COLUMBIA AVENUE, P.O. BOX 3001, LANCASTER, PA, 17604-3001, US		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	48		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	5 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	1909		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB Polymeric materials and products, including sheet flooring materials prepared from the polymeric materials, and processes for preparing the polymeric materials, are disclosed. The polymeric materials include a polylactic acid-based polymer in combination with plasticizer and a compatibilizer, and optionally include a filler. The polymeric material can include between about 30 to about 50 percent by weight polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene glycol, polyglycolide, ethylene vinyl acetate, polycarbonate, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxyalkanoates, or polyolefins modified with polar groups, for example, ionomers. The plasticizer is typically an epoxidized vegetable oil or esterified and epoxidized vegetable oil and is typically present in an amount of between about 10 and about 50% by weight. In some embodiments, the compatibilizer is a

polyolefin modified with one or more polar functional groups, and is typically present in an amount of between about 5 and about 10% by weight. The material can be used in decorative surface coverings, such as a floor coverings, particularly when it is in the form of a polymeric sheet. The polymeric material can be present in at least one layer of a floor covering, which floor covering can also include one or more additional layers such as wear layers, foamed or foamable layers, top coat layers and design layers. The additional layers can also include the polymeric material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

L9 ANSWER 5 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2003:307060 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Environmentally friendly polylactide-based composite formulations
 INVENTOR(S): Mohanty, Amar Kumar, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Drzal, Lawrence T., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Rook, Brian P., Holt, MI, UNITED STATES
 Misra, Manjusri, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20030216496	A1	20031120
	US 6869985	B2	20050322
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2002-304816	A1	20021126 (10)

	NUMBER	DATE
PRIORITY INFORMATION:	US 2002-379440P	20020510 (60)
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility	
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION	
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC, P.O. Box 7037, Atlanta, GA, 30357-0037	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	69	
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1	
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	5 Drawing Page(s)	
LINE COUNT:	1938	

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

AB Polymeric materials and products, including sheet flooring materials prepared from the polymeric materials, and processes for preparing the polymeric materials, are disclosed. The polymeric materials include a polylactic acid-based polymer in combination with plasticizer and a compatibilizer, and optionally include a filler. The polymeric material can include between about 30 to about 50 percent by weight polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene glycol, polyglycolide, ethylene vinyl acetate, polycarbonate, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxyalkanoates, or polyolefins modified with polar groups, for example, ionomers. The plasticizer is typically an epoxidized vegetable oil or esterified and epoxidized vegetable oil and is typically present in an amount of between about 10 and about 50% by weight. In some embodiments, the compatibilizer is a polyolefin modified with one or more polar functional groups, and is typically present in an amount of between about 5 and about 10% by weight. The material can be used in decorative surface coverings, such as a floor coverings, particularly when it is in the form of a polymeric sheet. The polymeric material can be present in at least one layer of a floor covering, which floor covering can also include one or more additional layers such as wear layers, foamed or foamable layers, top coat layers and design layers. The additional layers can also include the polymeric material.

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

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L9 ANSWER 4 OF 5 USPATFULL on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005:144009 USPATFULL
 TITLE: Environmentally friendly polylactide-based composite formulations
 INVENTOR(S): Mohanty, Amar K., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Drzal, Lawrence T., Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES
 Rook, Brian P., Holt, MI, UNITED STATES
 Misra, Manjusri, Okemos, MI, UNITED STATES

	NUMBER	KIND	DATE
PATENT INFORMATION:	US 20050123744	A1	20050609
	US 7256223	B2	20070814
APPLICATION INFO.:	US 2005-32608	A1	20050110 (11)
RELATED APPLN. INFO.:	Continuation of Ser. No. US 2002-304816, filed on 26 Nov 2002, GRANTED, Pat. No. US 6869985		
DOCUMENT TYPE:	Utility		
FILE SEGMENT:	APPLICATION		
LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:	ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES, INC., 2500 COLUMBIA AVENUE, P.O. BOX 3001, LANCASTER, PA, 17604-3001, US		
NUMBER OF CLAIMS:	48		
EXEMPLARY CLAIM:	1		
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS:	5 Drawing Page(s)		
LINE COUNT:	1909		

CAS INDEXING IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS PATENT.

SUMM The polymeric material can be used to prepare a component of a decorative surface covering, such as a floor covering. The polymeric material is particularly useful as a component of a floor covering when it is in the form of a polymeric sheet. The polymeric material can be present in at least one layer of a floor covering, which floor covering can also include one or more additional layers such as wear layers, foamed or foamable layers, top coat layers and design layers. The additional layers can also include the polymeric material. The material can also be mixed with cellulosic fibers like Kenaf, Industrial Hemp, Flax, Jute, Sisal, Henequen, Wood fiber, Grasses and Straws (Corn/Wheat/Rice) to form composites, such as natural/cellulose fiber composites. The material can also be mixed with organoclays to form composites, such as nanocomposites.

DETD Inorganic fillers and reinforcements can enhance the various polylactic acid-based layer(s) in floor covering materials including the polymeric material described herein. This enhancement can be through improvements in appearance, physical properties, or chemical characteristics. The particular inorganic filler/reinforcement attributes that are important are the nature of the inorganic material, the shape of the material, and any surface treatment or coating. There are many important aspects of the inorganic material. Density is important in the application and long term utility of a floor covering. Highly filled back coat layers (e.g. up to 85% by weight of filler) can be very useful in this regard. Another basic material attribute is hardness. Increased hardness is desirable in the final product, but too hard a filler (such as silica) can have negative effects on the wear of processing equipment, such as melt mixers and extruders. Table 1 lists some common inorganic fillers/reinforcements.

TABLE 1

Inorganic/organic Material	Density g/cc
Calcium Carbonate	2.7
Talc	2.9
Mica	2.6
Glass Fibres	2.6
Silica	2.5
Wollastonite	2.9
Aluminium Trihydrate	2.4
Magnesium Hydroxide	2.3
Titanium Dioxide	4.2
Exfoliated Nano-Clay	2.6
Bio/natural fibers including, but not limited to:	1.1-1.4
Kenaf, Jute, Hemp, Sisal, Corn Stalk, Grass fibers, Wood fiber	

DETD Natural/bio fibers: Natural fibers, alone or in combination with synthetic fibers, can be used to reinforce the plastic material described herein. The natural fibers can serve as reinforcement by enhancing the strength and stiffness and reducing the weight of the resulting composite structures. The properties of natural fibers vary with their source and treatment. The mechanical properties depend on whether the fibers are taken from plant stem or leaf, the quality of the plant locations, the age of the plant and the extraction process (retting) adopted to collect the fiber from the plants. Depending on their origin, the natural fibers may be grouped into: bast (stem), leaf and seed types. Examples include: (i) Bast: Jute, Flax, Kenaf, Hemp and Ramie; (ii) Leaf Sisal, henequen and pineapple leaf fiber (PALF); (iii) Seed/fruit: Cotton, coir and kapok. The natural fibers are lignocellulosic in nature and are primarily include cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin. The various chemical constituents of a specific natural fiber can also vary considerably. Such variation may be due to the origin, age, retting (mode of extraction of fiber from the source) process adopted, etc. Among all the natural fibers listed, coir is observed to contain least amount of cellulose but the highest percent of lignin. The amount of cellulose, in lignocellulosic systems, can vary depending on the species and age of the plant/species. The lignin, being polyfunctional, exists in combination with more than one neighboring chain molecules of cellulose and/or hemicellulose, making a crosslinked structure. The natural fibers are hydrophilic in nature, with moisture contents typically ranging between 8 and 13% by weight.

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COST IN U.S. DOLLARS

SINCE FILE

TOTAL

ENTRY

SESSION

FULL ESTIMATED COST

53.22

218.93

DISCOUNT AMOUNTS (FOR QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS)

SINCE FILE

TOTAL

ENTRY

SESSION

CA SUBSCRIBER PRICE

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-2.40

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